

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of : Customer Number: 20277  
Shuji HIRAO, et al. : Confirmation Number:  
Serial No.: : Group Art Unit:  
Filed: August 20, 2003 : Examiner:  
For: PRODUCTION METHOD OF SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

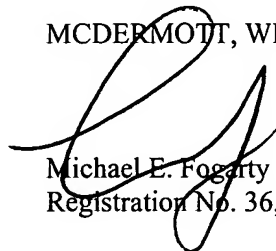
In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the documents be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

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Respectfully submitted,

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<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION</b>  <b>(PTO-1449)</b>				ATTY. DOCKET NO. <b>60188-635</b>		SERIAL NO.	
				APPLICANT <b>Shuji HIRAO, et al.</b>			
				FILING DATE <b>August 20, 2003</b>		GROUP	
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		
		US					
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<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number + Kind Codes (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Figures Appear	Translation	
						Yes	No
		JP-11-283979 (w/ English Abstract)	10/15/1999	SONY CORP.			
<b>OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>							
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.					
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1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.